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# THE Journal of the Society of Arts, AND OF THE INSTITUTIONS IN UNION.

111TH SESSION.]

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1865.

[No. 657. Vol. XIII.

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## TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, PAYMENTS, AND EXPENDITURE, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MAY, 1865.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in hands of Coutts and Co., 31st May, 1864				229	9	8	By Rent, Rates, and Taxes.....	206	13	8			
To Subscriptions for the year, from Members and Institutions in Union				5,861	13	6	Insurance, gas, coals, and house charges	170	13	2			
Life Contributions				207	18	0	Salaries, Wages, and Commissions.....	1,678	18	0			
Legacy				21	0	0	Postage, stamps, and Parcels ...	126	10	11			
Sale of Stock, Consols				1,601	1	6	Stationery and Printing, including List of Members	178	10	1			
*Dividends on Stock:—							Advertising	84	18	10			
Consols	£6,530	13	0				Working Classes' Museum	80	14	1			
Reduced by Sale of	1,783	18	7				Journal, including Stamps and Distribution to Members	1,576	15	7			
	£4746	19	5	164	18	10	Union of Institutions, including Examinations, Prizes, Postage, Stationery, Printing, &c.	560	19	5			
†£388 1s. 4d. New 3 per Cents.....				11	7	2	Prince Consort's Prize	26	5	0			
‡£2,000 Rupees, Indian 5 per Cent. Rupee Paper				258	0	0	Artistic Copyright	0	4	6			
							Conversazione	164	8	8			
To Examinations:—							Repairs and alterations	1,108	18	7			
Prince Consort's Prize				26	5	0	Jury Reports on Exhibition, 1862	1,274	16	3			
Dr. Temple	5	5	0				Art-Workmanship Prizes	498	10	6			
C. Brooke, Esq., F.R.S.	2	2	0				Society's New Medal	83	4	0			
Harry Chester, Esq.	4	0	0				Library, Bookbinding, &c.	129	12	11			
Sir C. W. Dilke, Bart.	10	0	0				Swiney Prize	200	0	0			
Dr. Skeay	1	1	0				Annuity to Mrs. Cantor	25	0	0			
Fees	6	8	6				Cantor Lectures	276	12	7			
							Musical Committee	2	4	6			
To Rent, Rates, and Taxes	0	10	0				Coachmakers' Exhibition Prize	5	0	0			
Sale of Books	5	12	0				Society's Memorial to the Prince Consort	0	4	8			
Jury Reports	192	12	7				Labourers' Dwellings Committee	41	17	8			
Farmers' Club	1	10	0				Distribution of Prizes	18	7	11			
Art-Workmanship Examples	59	11	6				Labourers' Cottage Prize	25	0	0			
							Power of Attorney	1	1	6			
South Australian Institute				259	16	1	Maitland School of Arts	0	11	3			
				552	10	10	South Australian Institute	380	14	0			
											8,927	8	3
							Balance of Cash in hands of Coutts & Co.				295	8	10
											£9,222	17	1

## LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Sundry Creditors:—							*By Consols, £146 19s. 5d., at 91½				134	2	9
South Australian Institute	184	1	6				†Invested in Indian 5 per cent. Rupee Paper				355	2	7
Sir W. C. Trevelyan, Bart.	70	0	0				Subscriptions in course of collection, £1,9-9 2s., valued at				1,600	0	0
Society's Memorial to the Prince Consort	545	15	10				Value of the Society's Lease of Premises				3,000	0	0
The Prince Consort's Prize	26	5	0				Other Property				2,000	0	0
Examination Prizes	185	0	0				Examination Prize Fund				36	5	0
Examiners' Fees	226	16	0				Jury Reports in Stock				105	12	0
Tradesmen's Accounts	835	7	7				Bell and Daldy				12	10	4
							Cash in hands of Coutts and Co.	295	8	10			
Excess of assets over liabilities				5,535	15	7	London and Westminster Bank	70	0	0			
											365	8	10
											£7,609	1	6

## TRUST FUNDS.

*Swiney Bequest.....	£4,500	0	0	Consols, liable to a charge of £200 once in five years.
*John Took's Trust	100	0	0	„ „ liable to the Award of a Medal.
†Fothergill's Trust	388	1	4	New 3 per cents., liable to the Award of a Medal.
‡Cantor Bequest.....	5,049	9	7	invested in Indian 5 per cent. Rupee Paper.

SEYMOUR TEULON, }  
H. READER LACK, } Auditors.  
P. LE NEVE FOSTER, } Secretary.

Society House, Adelphi, June 21st, 1865.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The foregoing statement is published in this week's *Journal*, in accordance with Sec. 42 of the Society's Bye-laws, which provides that, at the Annual Meeting, the Council shall render to the Society a full account of their proceedings, and of the receipts, payments, and expenditure during the past year; and a copy of such statement shall be published in the *Journal* of the Society, on the Friday before such General Meeting.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The One Hundred and Eleventh Annual General Meeting, for the purpose of receiving the Council's Report and the Treasurers' Statement of Receipts, Payments, and Expenditure during the past year, and also for the Election of Officers, will be held, in accordance with the Bye-Laws, on Wednesday, the 28th of June, at 4 o'clock.

The Council hereby convene a Special General Meeting of the Members of the Society to ballot for members, such meeting to take place at the close of the Annual General Meeting.

By order,  
P. LE NEVE FOSTER,  
*Secretary.*

Society's House, Adelphi, June 21st, 1865.

## PRIZES FOR ART-WORKMANSHIP.

The Council have much pleasure in publishing the following letter:—

17th June, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—Referring to your letter of the 10th of January last, soliciting the co-operation of the Worshipful Company of Plasterers, London, in offering prizes for Art-Workmanship, I have now the pleasure to inform you that the Plasterers' Company have resolved to offer through the Society of Arts one prize of £10 and a second of £5 for modelling.

I send on the other side the particulars of the subject selected, and also the conditions, subject to which the prizes are offered, and I should feel much obliged if you would kindly make the same known as extensively as possible.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,  
H. MOTT.

P. Le Neve Foster, Esq., Secretary to the  
Society of Arts, Adelphi.

The Worshipful Company of Plasterers, London, offer (subject to the general conditions of the Society of Arts) a prize of £10 for the best floriated bracket or truss in the Italian Renaissance style—dimensions, 14 inches on the beam, 12 inches on the wall, and 8 inches on the face—to be designed and modelled by the competitor, or the designer and modeller may co-operate in the production, when £5 will be awarded to each.

Five pounds will be given for the next best model, or £2 10s. each to designer and modeller.

Artizans' apprentices and students may compete for these prizes, but not master tradesmen, Masters in Schools of Art, or those training for Masters in the Central School of the Department of Art.

To be delivered at the Society of Arts by the 14th December, 1865.

## Proceedings of the Society.

## FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Fourteenth Annual Conference of the Representatives of the Institutions in Union, and the Local Educational Boards, with the Council of the Society, was held at the Society's House on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at 12 o'clock, noon. WILLIAM HAWES, Esq., F.G.S., Chairman of the Council, presided.

At the conclusion of the Secretary's Report to the Council, read to the Conference, and published in the last number of this *Journal* (see p. 506), the Chairman laid before the Conference the proposed Programme of the Examinations for 1866, and called attention to the following subjects proposed for the consideration of the Conference:—

1. The establishment of organising teachers among the Institutes, on the plan adopted in the East Lancashire Union.
2. Is any modification of the present scheme of *Elementary Examinations*, by rendering it more adapted to the capacities of class pupils in Mechanics' Institutes, desirable.
3. The advantages of local prizes to successful candidates, at the Society of Arts Examinations, as a stimulus to local competition.
4. Whether any special inducements can be held out to lead soldiers to avail themselves of the Society's Examinations? [See the correspondence with H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, *Journal* p. 493.]
5. The propriety of adding to the Society's Examinations the subject of "Practical Gardening," in accordance with a proposal made to the Council by the Royal Horticultural Society, who have expressed their willingness to offer prizes in this subject.
6. How can Institutions promote the Physical Education of their members?
7. How may Popular Readings and Entertainments be made to promote the efficiency of Institution Classes?
8. The advantage of Garden Allotments, as a feature of the Institute, with a view of healthful recreation for the members.
9. Should Institutes promote the establishment of Horticultural Shows, Building Societies, Penny Savings Banks, and similar movements towards the social amelioration of the people?
10. The advantages and disadvantages of subscriptions to Institutes being paid by weekly or other small amounts.

The CHAIRMAN said it was now his duty to ask the Conference to enter upon the consideration of the various subjects which had been referred to in the report, and also those which had been suggested for discussion. Before the proceedings went any further he could not help expressing his regret that on account of ill health they were deprived of the presence of Mr. Chester, who had for so many years taken a most active part, and had been of the greatest possible service, in the system of Examinations which was now carried out by the Society. He also regretted that he should be obliged to ask their indulgence in allowing him to leave the chair before the business was concluded. He then called on the Secretary to state the alterations it was proposed to make in

## THE PROGRAMME OF EXAMINATIONS, ELEMENTARY AND FINAL, FOR 1866.

The SECRETARY stated that, looking at the small number of candidates that in each year had taken up the subjects of Conic Sections, Navigation and Nautical Astronomy, Astronomy, and Agriculture,

it was proposed to omit these subject from the next year's Examinations. As regarded the Elementary Examinations it was proposed, with reference to the Junior Grade, that only one of the special subjects should be compulsory, instead of two as hitherto; and as regards females, that needlework alone should be compulsory. As regards the Senior Grade, the English History would this year include general English History, with special attention to the reign of George III. The Scripture Examinations would be in the facts of St. Matthew's Gospel. Liberty was given for the Boards to hold the Examinations at any time after 3 o'clock, instead of 4 o'clock as hitherto.

The Conference then proceeded to discuss

**"THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ORGANISING TEACHERS AMONG THE INSTITUTES, ON THE PLAN ADOPTED IN THE EAST LANCASHIRE UNION."**

Mr. LAWTON (Lancashire and Cheshire Union) said the system referred to was the employment of two gentlemen devoted entirely to the working of a district comprising about 12 Institutions. The district was divided between them, and they each visited a separate school every night in the week, taking charge of the classes, giving lessons, and taking the general supervision of the school for the evening. In addition to this, the organising teachers in East Lancashire held science certificates, and it was understood that wherever they visited for elementary work, science classes were always conducted by them after the elementary classes were finished, so that the Institutions in the district had the benefit of their assistance both for elementary and for scientific teaching. The plan was a very expensive one to work. It was certainly doing great service, but it pressed heavily on the Institutions that adopted it, inasmuch as they had to pay £15 a year for the services of the organising teachers, in addition to the expense incurred in providing their ordinary teaching power. The system sketched out for adoption in the course of next year in the Lancashire and Cheshire Union was a modification of this scheme. Instead of engaging gentlemen to devote themselves exclusively to the Union both day and night, it was proposed to distribute the Institutions into groups. There would perhaps be a group of five; one gentleman would take charge of special subjects at the central Institution on behalf of the district; the members of the different Institutions would attend the central Institution on the same terms as the members of the central Institution itself; the elementary work would be conducted by the teachers belonging to the several Institutions without a visit of a special teacher; and consequently, with a much less burden pressing upon them, the Institutions would be able to have elementary teaching, and a special teaching power at the central Institution at a much less cost than they would have to pay for the services of a visiting agent for one night.

Mr. BARNETT BLAKE (Yorkshire Union) said that very great expense was certainly involved by the Institutions, because only a very small number could be served by one teacher. The matter had been brought under discussion when Sir James Kay Shuttleworth was present, and it was then considered most advisable, instead of attempting to do so little at so great a cost, to employ one agent for the whole district comprised within the Union, inasmuch as, though each Institution might not be so much benefited as by the system pursued in East Lancashire, yet the advantage really obtained would be spread over a much larger area. The resolution which he wished to propose on the subject was as follows:—

"That when ten or twelve Institutions sufficiently near will join in the employment of a competent teacher, to visit each Institution one evening in a fortnight, the instruction in evening classes may be well carried on with gratuitous aid; and that in districts where the Union of a larger number of Institutions is necessary to supply funds to obtain the assistance of an organising master, much advantage may be gained."

Mr. H. COLE, C.B., said he should be happy to second the resolution, for the purpose of discussing the question. The first part of it seemed to imply that the Institutions would rely upon gratuitous help for the greater part of their teaching, but would look to an organising teacher once a fortnight or so for the remainder. The principle of the resolution seemed to be that half a loaf was better than no bread, but that a whole one was better still. He (Mr. Cole) objected to reliance on gratuitous services, and wished to make an announcement as to some additional assistance which the Department with which he had the honour to be connected was disposed to afford in reference to certain subjects, and of which he hoped Mechanics' Institutions would avail themselves. A Minute of Council had recently been passed which enabled any Mechanics' Institution, or any Evening Class connected with a National or other kind of school, to have a drawing-class—which of course they could have without asking anybody's leave; but if they liked to establish such a class, and employ a certificated teacher in what was called the "second grade," which was a schoolmaster's certificate, or, if they preferred it, a teacher of the "third grade," they might then get paid for the work which they accomplished. There were no conditions as to the number of nights which the class need meet during the year; it was only a question of examination—similar to that conducted by the Society of Arts—once in a year. When a class required to be examined, they would have to work papers, which would be examined in London; and for every paper worked in the second grade, or in that grade of drawing, they might get ten shillings; so that if a clever artisan chose to learn a little geometry, and to do a little free-hand drawing, and drawing from a model, and in perspective, his teacher might demand from the department £2, or ten shillings for each paper. Further than that, if the Institution thought fit to employ a teacher having a third grade certificate, which was an art-teacher's qualification, and would unite with any local school of art, the nearest, or any other which might be preferred, and through the School of Art would send up papers of a higher grade than those performed in the presence of an examiner, and which would be judged of without reference to time, and solely with reference to quality, then they might obtain fifteen shillings for such work as was satisfactory, with the chance of competing for gold, silver, and bronze medals. This matter was one which touched both the teaching of night classes and the resolution under discussion. The minute had been laid before Parliament, and there was every reason to believe that it would come into operation during the coming year.

Mr. BLAKE said the object of the resolution which he had proposed was to encourage Local Unions to do more in practical teaching than they had hitherto done. Because they could not employ paid teachers it was thought there was no good to be done, whereas the fact was, that a great deal might be done by gratuitous teachers properly directed by an occasional visitor. Mr. Lawton would be able to testify that, in Lancashire, a great deal of good was done by the services of an occasional visitor.

Mr. LAWTON did not consider it a healthy sign that they were asked to encourage a system of gratuitous teaching.

Mr. BLAKE said what he meant was that when they could only get gratuitous teachers they would do well to have a competent man to look after them—a system which was often adopted.

Mr. LAWTON was quite willing to acknowledge the great benefit derived from voluntary teachers under paid teachers, but it was very necessary to remember that they ought in all their institutions to have paid teachers. He would give one instance from his own neighbourhood, as an illustration of a system which he thought would be found to work well. They had five institutions within a diameter of about two and a-half miles; he would suggest that those institutions should engage their own teachers

of elementary work, and they would be able to do that for thirty weeks in the year at a cost of £10, for which sum they could secure the services of a first-class man. He would then propose that they should have a special certificated teacher for special subjects at the central institution, at a cost of £12. Each institution would, under this scheme, have three class-nights under certificated teaching power, and one class-night under special teaching power.

Mr. C. WOMERSLEY (Hastings Mechanics' Institution) said the resolution merely served to affirm a principle about which no time need be wasted.

Mr. COLE said that if the resolution was supposed to mean that they recommended gratuitous teaching as a principle of action, he should have some objection to it. It was very well to get all they could for nothing, but everybody knew it was not likely to continue, and was not much prized after all. It was very important to make people who were being taught understand that what they were receiving was really something worth paying for, however moderate the charge might be. He did not like the use of the word "gratuitous," as it might be misunderstood, and he thought Mr. Blake could easily draw up a wider resolution which would embrace everything.

Mr. SALES (Metropolitan Association) thought it was a misnomer to call those mentioned in the resolution "organising teachers," because they not only had to set the machinery in operation, but they had to take part in working themselves. He should vote against any resolution which gave the authority of the Conference to the employment of gratuitous teachers. It was most desirable that the people attending the Institutions should feel bound to pay for the benefit they received from them, and not to trust to charity. He did not like to propose an amendment, but he hoped the resolution would not pass as it stood.

Dr. PANKHURST (Lancashire and Cheshire Union) said he thought they ought to embody in the resolution to be passed some substantive proposal, upon which they could fix the attention of the Conference. The substance of the resolution proposed by Mr. Blake was to assert that any system was better than none; but what they wanted to do was to show which out of the several systems submitted they believed to be the best. Mr. Lawton had very judiciously and effectually stated the points of difference between the plan which had received the sanction and approval of Sir James Kay Shuttleworth and the plan which was in partial operation in the Lancashire and Cheshire Union. The Lancashire system might be said to be the best for many obvious reasons. It was the simplest, the most economical, and the most productive of benefit, and these formed three very substantial reasons why it should be preferred. There were two subjects proposed to be taught, one of which might be termed general and the other special. The East Lancashire system gave to the same man both classes of work to do, while the Lancashire and Cheshire system gave to one set of men one subject, and reserved exclusively to the other set another subject. Mr. Lawton had stated the fact as to the money payments required by each Institution, and the same amount of work would be much better under the Lancashire than under the East Lancashire system; and for this reason, the object being that the special subjects should be taught in the best possible way, it seemed quite clear that each Institution should be pressed to supply its own staff of teachers for general subjects, and that the members of each Institute should be collected together under the management of a man who was devoted to one special class of teaching. He begged to move the following amendment to the resolution, as collecting together the principles of difference between the two systems:—

"That this Conference approves the system of organising teaching power through the Union by distributing Institutions into groups and a centre, at which special subjects may be taught, and suggests that each Institution should be pressed to establish a staff of teachers for general subjects."

Mr. BLAKE said the amendment was only his resolution put in another form, and he would at once withdraw his proposition.

Dr. PANKHURST said it was quite obvious that the number of special teachers they could command was very small compared with those who could be got to teach general subjects. The Lancashire and Cheshire had the advantage that while a special teacher was purveying instruction to one Union one night a week, and was so satisfying the wants of the Union, he might also be operating with the same efficiency for other Unions during the rest of the week, so that he might be purveying special instruction, of the best order and according to the most approved methods, to five Unions in the same week, while at the same time a regular attention was paid to preliminary subjects, about which one might say that the higher they proposed to carry the point of special efficiency the broader still they ought to lay the basis of general subjects.

The Rev. R. WHITTINGTON (City of London College) seconded the amendment, and said that in the Institution he represented there was a fundamental rule that no teacher should be unpaid. He fully recognised the importance and the efficiency of paid teaching power, but on the other hand he knew there were many Institutions which were obliged to depend to a very great extent, especially in general subjects, on gratuitous teaching. He believed the system of organising teachers was one step in advance towards employing paid teaching exclusively, and he believed it was a system which would be productive of good results.

Mr. B. RULE (Aldershot and Farnham Board of Education) said he very much questioned whether it would be expedient on the part of the Conference to encourage the principle of gratuitous teaching.

The Rev. G. B. MACILWAIN (St. George's and St. James's, Westminster, Local Board) was fully sensible of the very great superiority of paid teachers over gratuitous teachers, but looking at the matter practically he thought they would all admit that for the present, at all events, they would be obliged to make very extensive use of gratuitous teaching. He found in his own Institution that they received very efficient aid from gratuitous teachers under the superintendence of paid teachers. He directed a great many classes, and in each room there was a paid teacher who was well skilled in the subjects being taught, and who had under him or her, as the case might be, ladies and gentlemen who were solely directed by the superintendence of the paid teacher, and to whom hints were given as to the way in which the teaching should be carried out. The system had been in operation for three or four years, and had worked well, the greatest harmony always existing between the parties engaged in it.

The Rev. W. S. BRUCE (St. Margaret's and St. John's, Westminster, Local Board) having had great experience in connection with night schools and evening classes, wished to confirm what the last speaker had said. He fully admitted the usefulness of voluntary teachers, but he did not approve of schools where there were no paid teachers, because some one ought to be responsible for the general discipline and the tone of the education imparted. Still there were many cases in which it was absolutely necessary to employ voluntary teachers, and this was often the means of interesting parties in the school who would aid both pecuniarily and otherwise.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not think that by passing the resolution the Conference wished to discourage voluntary teaching, but only to declare that paid teaching was best. Whatever the Conference might say, however, it was a question which the various institutions would have to decide according to their individual circumstances.

Dr. Pankhurst's resolution was carried unanimously.

Sir F. R. SANDFORD then took the chair, and said the next subject was—

"IS ANY MODIFICATION OF THE PRESENT SCHEME OF ELEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS, BY RENDERING IT MORE ADAPTED TO THE CAPACITIES OF CLASS PUPILS IN MECHANICS' INSTITUTES, DESIRABLE?"

Mr. BARNETT BLAKE said he supposed it would only be necessary for the Conference to affirm by a resolution the statement in the report on this subject. As many would be aware, the great difficulty hitherto had been that while in many Institutions there were a great number of candidates who were sufficiently advanced in reading, writing, and arithmetic to show that they had got so far the basis of instruction, the present system required that they should have passed in other subjects, namely, Gospel History, English History, and Geography. It had been found in the practical working of this that while there were many who stood in a very respectable position with regard to the former they had a difficulty as to the latter, and it had been thought that it would really be an encouraging step if the condition was so far lowered as to make one subject alone necessary for the junior candidates. He did not think it was at all necessary to interfere with the senior candidates, because if they professed to be seniors they ought to have more knowledge than the juniors. He would merely propose to do this by saying that it was desirable to reduce the standard required for certificates for the junior candidates, and for that purpose he would propose the following resolution:—

That it is desirable to grant certificates to such junior candidates as, having satisfactorily passed in reading and arithmetic, shall also obtain a certain number of marks in one only of the subjects—Gospel History, English History, and Geography.

Mr. RULE much regretted that he was not at the Committee meeting yesterday at which this subject had been discussed, but he wished to suggest the introduction of another subject into the scheme of elementary education. He would suggest the very great advisability of introducing, both into the junior and the senior classes, English Grammar and Dictation. Many of the candidates were very well up in English History and Geography, but the general style of composition shown in the papers was very defective; and in many instances a large number of marks were lost by incorrect spelling. He believed that if English Grammar and Dictation were introduced it would materially improve the efficiency of the examinations; and in addition to that he would suggest that Composition should be introduced into the higher grade. He doubted very much whether any of the candidates who passed last year would be able to pass a satisfactory examination in English Composition, and he therefore wished the subject to be embraced, as well as Grammar and Spelling, in the examination.

The CHAIRMAN asked whether he would make it compulsory or voluntary.

Mr. RULE replied that he should prefer it to be compulsory.

Mr. LAWTON had understood the decision come to by the Committee applied both to the higher and lower grade of candidates. He understood that what was then said applied to both grades.

The CHAIRMAN said he had understood that the decision of the Committee applied only to the junior grade.

Mr. LAWTON said it should not be forgotten that many of the senior candidates were really the worst of the two. In fact, the seniors were those who had been neglected in years gone by, and the juniors were really the cleverest, they having but recently left school. With reference to females he had understood the scheme sketched out by the Committee to be that they would be required to take either Gospel History, English History, or Geography, but that they must be examined in reading, writing, arithmetic, and needlework.

Mr. PHARSALL (London Mechanics' Institution) expressed a hope that all the candidates might be given clearly to understand what they were to be examined in, because it would be exceedingly annoying to them, when they had

prepared for a certain examination, to find that more would be required of them than they had expected or were prepared for. In many cases the examiners rubbed up their own education to prepare the questions, which was unfair indeed to the candidates, who had not had equal advantage with the examiners. If the English language were taught on a better principle than that at present adopted it would be different, but on the system on which it was taught at present it was impossible that the candidate could be expected to pass a satisfactory examination in it.

Mr. SALES said it appeared that he had made a great mistake as to the decision come to yesterday by the Educational Committee, for he had quite understood, when voting for the resolution, that the reduction to one subject applied to both grades, or else he should certainly have opposed any resolution which did not apply to the higher grade. He spoke from his experience of a metropolitan district, where he found that the number of classes increased very considerably, and that those classes were well attended by the very persons whom they wished to get at. A man looked through the programme of the Society of Arts, and found that if he obtained a certificate from a District Union he need not pass another examination before undergoing the Final Examination of the Society; but when he looked to the requirement for the certificates he found that he was expected to have a smattering of English History and Geography, and he then asked why he should be expected to get himself up in those subjects when he only wished to undergo an examination by the Society in a subject in which he was engaged in his daily occupation, and with which English History and Geography had no connection whatever? This condition of requiring English History and Geography had greatly affected the elementary examination of the past year, and would do so still more in the future, and therefore, as a step in the right direction, he had voted yesterday that it should be made compulsory next year to take only one subject, and he hoped the time would come when it would not be thought necessary to make either English History or Geography compulsory on the candidate for examination. He hoped the system would be made something like the examination in honours, by allowing the candidate to take those subjects if he pleased. He was certain that if the Society of Arts continued to require English History and Geography in the Elementary Examinations, the District Unions would find that such a system was detrimental to the candidates themselves. He begged, therefore, to move, as an amendment:—

"That it is important that the Elementary Examinations should be more adapted to the capacities of class pupils in Mechanics' Institutions, by not rendering it compulsory in either grade to take up more than one of the three following subjects, viz.:—Geography, History, and Gospel History, in addition to Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic."

The CHAIRMAN said he had certainly understood yesterday that the resolution withdrawing one of the subjects for examination referred only to the junior grade, but he did not know whether Mr. Blake would have any objection to making his resolution applicable to both grades. He would, therefore, ask him whether he objected to leaving the word "junior" out of his resolution.

Mr. BLAKE thought no one could have misunderstood the decision of the Committee. He objected to the proposal that the alteration should apply to both grades. He disagreed with the reasons on which the proposal was made. It was one of the great crying sins of the day that in all the public questions which were being continually brought up people knew so little about history and geography, and why should they have certificates granted to them when all they knew might be a little reading or arithmetic? When the question was raised some time back as to the female candidates and the necessity for their passing an examination in plain needlework, the objection taken by some members was that they had

a right to consider the class for whom the examinations<sup>s</sup> were established. He believed they would not be doing their duty if they neglected branches of education so necessary for the improvement of the people. The word "junior" in connection with the candidate did not apply to age at all, but only to attainments. If the candidates claimed a certificate of a higher grade, which supposed that they had acquired, at least, the elements of an English education, it was but fair to expect of them that they should learn something of the broad facts of history and geography. The plan which Mr. Rule had proposed would make the matter more difficult still, and there was really no necessity for it, because the quality of the composition could be judged from the answers given to the various questions. He did not believe there was a greater popular error than that of learning Grammar; and he did not believe that such a system as that proposed could be carried out successfully, though he admitted that there might be some good done by introducing Dictation. He did not consider that the necessity of having two subjects compulsory need be regarded in any way as a bar to the Local Boards returning candidates to the Final Examination of the Society of Arts, and he should therefore press the resolution which he had proposed.

Mr. PEARSALL wished to state, from his own experience, what the state of matters was. At the present time there were young men who had entered themselves for the Society of Arts Examination in Arithmetic, but who had been rejected on the critical points of Dictation, Writing, and Grammar, and who were now answering questions on arithmetic in the public periodicals, though they could not obtain a certificate from the Society of Arts.

Mr. LAWTON said he should like to reply to one or two things that had been said by Mr. Blake. He maintained that the Programme was not sufficiently distinct, but was too loose in its character, spreading over the whole of history as it did for the lower grade, and merely taking a period of fifty years for the higher grade. What he had stated before on this subject was that the modified scheme should bear entirely on the whole system of examination, including both the higher and the lower grades. He could also say that there many Institutions which would not adopt the present scheme of Elementary Examinations as the preliminary for the Final Examination. In fact, many of them had told him that if the present system continued they should take no notice at all of the Elementary Examinations, but take the matter entirely into their own hands, and conduct their own Previous Examination. Many of the candidates were willing to join for one special subject which they had been studying, it might be History or Geography, or Chemistry, but they would not go in for two. They could not do it, and not only that, they would not do it. If the Elementary Examinations only required Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic, allowing any other subjects to be optional, he believed the candidates would avail themselves of the examinations to a greater extent than they had hitherto done.

Dr. PANKHURST said he had looked with a great deal of care at the amendment proposed by Mr. Sales, and he felt bound to concur in it. The purpose they had in view was to state substantially what was to be the matriculation examination to the Final Examination of the Society of Arts. It was perfectly plain that the class from whom to exact a variety of subjects was the young people, and yet Mr. Blake was not disposed to do this, though he wanted to subject the labouring people, who ought to be exempt, to a severe test in subordinate matters. If a mechanic presented himself for examination it was quite obvious that they ought to expect as little from him as possible, considering that he was probably advanced in years, and had contracted certain mental habits which it would be difficult for him to overcome. He thought that from such a man they might fairly exact Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic, and one other subject which he should be required and expected to prepare himself in as a matter

of intellectual culture. He felt satisfied that the amendment of Mr. Sales was one which would commend itself to the Society, and he had much pleasure in seconding it. It was very necessary to bear in mind that the preliminary examination was substantially a matriculation, and as they were approximating middle-class education to university education, so they also ought to approximate industrial education to middle-class education. He wished to impose on the instruction in every Mechanics' Institution all the conditions which were proper to an efficiently-conducted middle-class school.

Mr. JONES (South Staffordshire Association) said it seemed to be assumed that the Local Boards and District Unions must accept the senior certificates and then pass the candidate for the Final Examination. All the Society of Arts said was that they would accept such certificates, but the fact was that in many cases, if not in the majority, the Local Boards had their own special examinations. He could not see how it bore at all upon the question of Final Examinations, whether they had one or two subjects. It was just as unfair to ask a candidate coming up for examination in chemistry, or in a scientific subject, to take up one of the three subjects as it was to take up two, but in requiring the three, as proposed by Mr. Rule, they were really putting another condition for the admission to the final examination. The Society of Arts only required an examination in certain subjects which had been sketched out, and if they adopted a senior certificate the candidate had the option of being examined in any other subject besides the special subjects required by the Society, and the Local Boards were urged to encourage candidates to take the senior examinations because it would simplify the matter. It would be found very convenient in some Institutions to make the Previous Examination altogether independent of the senior examination. With respect to what had been done by the Committee, he quite understood that the senior programme was not to be changed at all, and if it had been intended to have been altered he should have spoken against it, because he was instructed by the Institution which he represented to press only for a change in the junior programme. It was of great importance that there should be some differences between the senior and junior programme, and he thought the Conference would only be doing its duty in approving the modification proposed by the Committee.

The Rev. W. S. BRUCE did not believe that by keeping two subjects compulsory they would produce any higher state of education, because the greater the number of subjects a candidate was allowed or compelled to go in for, the more would he be likely to get only a smattering of each of them, while he would really know but very little about them. He had been examiner to one local board, and the atrocious answers that were given by the candidates in Gospel History, Geography, and English History were beyond what one could possibly have imagined could have been the case.

Mr. E. HAY CURRIE (Metropolitan Association) supported Mr. Sales's motion, though he did not agree with it *in toto*, but he believed it to be a step in the right direction. They had attained considerable results in the east of London during the past winter, but it was found that it was no use whatever trying to do anything with History and Geography. A large number of candidates wished to go in for the examination, but they asked what was the use of their being examined in History or in Geography. He quite agreed with what had been said about English Grammar. He believed that if the subject could be substituted for History and Geography, it would be a very great step in advance. He had had a class of about 50 or 60 lads, about 15 years of age, in English Grammar, and it was a very popular class indeed. There was a very strong competition at the end of the season, but the members positively declined going in for the other subjects.

Mr. BLAKE said he did not think it should be consi-

dered that the plan proposed was to be a pass to the higher examinations. What he wanted to do was rather to give an intermediate certificate, and this was a reason why it had been somewhat modified.

Mr. LAWTON said that in his district they were trying to do away with so many examinations being held.

Mr. RULE said they were not obliged to hold them.

Mr. LAWTON replied that they must have a test examination if they had not a preliminary one, or else how could they say that such and such a candidate had passed. They were trying as much as they could to amalgamate the Examinations, by doing away with some of the Local Preliminary Examinations.

Mr. SALES said, in reply to the chairman, he felt bound to press his amendment; English History and Geography, he considered were put quite out of court, because they were both on the papers of the Society of Arts, to the Final Examination of which it was intended to lead the candidate on.

The Rev. R. WHITTINGTON seconded the original resolution *pro forma*.

The amendment was then put and carried.

Mr. RULE then proposed his resolution as a separate motion:—

“That English Grammar and Writing from dictation be introduced into the Junior Grade, and that the same subjects, including Composition, be added to the Higher Grade, such subjects to be obligatory.”

He said that some of the speakers seemed to think that English History and Geography were the only subjects by the study of which a young man could acquire mental discipline, forgetting that, in the way in which English Grammar was now taught—which was very different from what it used to be—nothing could be better for the purpose of mental discipline in those who studied it. It was now taught in a reasonable and philosophical manner, and the mental good to be gained by so studying it was far greater than that introduced by the study of English History and Geography—two subjects which could be very easily got up by students, whereas Grammar could not be, but must be thoroughly understood before a satisfactory examination could be passed. Mr. Blake had said that they could judge by the examination papers of the character of the candidates' composition, but he could assure Mr. Blake that he was very much mistaken about that. He had for several years revised the papers sent by the Society of Arts down to Aldershot for the Elementary Examinations, and he knew that those who replied to those papers were certainly not able to write a decent composition, in fact he very much doubted if three out of four of them could write a description of the town of Aldershot. It was a very sad thing that a young man should be entering life without being able to write a description of the town in which he lived, and he believed this matter was one of great importance. The matter of dictation, too, he thought, was a very important one. He did not mean by composition that they should require from a candidate an elaborate essay on Virtue, but a simple description of a town or a game, so that they might be able to judge of what power he had of expressing his thoughts.

Mr. SALES asked if Mr. Rule would make his resolution simply permissive instead of compulsory.

Mr. RULE said he was willing to do that, in the hope that at some future time it would be made obligatory.

The Rev. R. WHITTINGTON thought the Dictation ought not to be dropped, because it was a much better and more difficult thing than mere Spelling, as had been suggested, and had been adopted now in the public schools. Notwithstanding what had been said about Grammar, he believed that the subject, as it was now taught, was a most important one, and he quite agreed that it ought not to be ignored, though for the present it would perhaps be as well not to make it compulsory.

Mr. PEARSALL said it would perhaps answer the purpose

if it was understood by the candidates that the examiners would append to the papers such remarks as they thought fit upon the Composition.

The CHAIRMAN asked if the gentlemen who were supporting the resolution had considered that it would involve a special night? If there were four subjects, and the candidates could take any two of them, they must have a separate night for each.

The Rev. W. S. BAUGH said that might easily be obviated. As the term “Dictation” had been objected to, he would suggest that it should be altered to “Writing from Dictation,” and then no one could possibly make a mistake about it.

Mr. LAWTON thought that after the last resolution which had been passed it was hardly advisable to take in another subject, though he approved of Dictation, because it would not involve a separate night, nor any special preparation on the part of the candidates. He did not think it was desirable to introduce Grammar.

Mr. BLAKE strongly advised the Conference to reject the resolution, because if it was passed they would be virtually debarring the candidates from passing the examinations. It was clear enough that a candidate could not write an interesting description of the town of Aldershot if he could not answer a question in English History. Mr. Rule said that the replies to the papers were no test, and yet the very next minute he said that he had already tested the composition of the candidates by their papers. It was all very well to talk about Grammar, but the fact was that the best of our modern writers were those who had never learned Grammar at all. He protested against the introduction of Grammar and Composition, because it would keep the candidates from coming up to the examinations. Dictation he did not so much object to, but they might depend upon it that the more of these things they imposed on the candidates the more breaches of the regulation they would have. He was sure that nothing would be gained if the resolution were carried.

Mr. W. H. CURRIE had much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Mr. SALES supported the resolution, and thought the remarks of Mr. Blake were utterly beside the question, inasmuch as it was not proposed to substitute English Grammar for one of the other subjects. He believed he should send far more candidates for examination in Grammar than in all the other subjects combined; and as the resolution was so very mild, seeing that it was only permissive, he hoped Mr. Blake would withdraw his opposition to it.

Mr. BROOKS (Banbury Mechanics' Institution) thought it might not be desirable to increase the number of subjects for examination, inasmuch as there would be great difficulty in getting examiners. He should be very glad to find English Grammar introduced, but he should be sorry if it had the effect of injuring the present examinations, or of preventing candidates coming forward. He was afraid that in many provincial towns this would be the case.

Dr. PANKHURST believed that consistently with the previous resolution it was highly undesirable to increase the number of subjects, and he thought that a great part of the good which it was thought would arise from introducing another special subject would be effected by informing the candidates, by a memorandum appended to the papers, that special attention would be paid by the examiners to Grammar and Spelling. He objected to the introduction of Grammar as a special subject, because it was so very vague. It by no means followed because a large number of candidates might be sent up that an useful examination would take place, because such an examination was exceedingly difficult. He hoped, therefore, that the Conference would not pass the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN said that in the Paddington Institution, with which he was connected, there was great difficulty in getting persons to superintend the examinations, and, therefore, he should be sorry to see the number of nights



added to. He should be sorry for Dictation to be introduced unless it were made obligatory on both classes of candidates. He quite agreed that Grammar was the most difficult subject which could be introduced, and it was one which was now disappearing from many of the public examinations.

The Rev. W. S. BRUCE suggested that the Chairman should ask the Society of Arts to strengthen the present programme by calling special attention to the subjects of Grammar, Spelling, and Composition.

The Rev. R. WHITTINGTON said the Society had already done all that they could in this matter.

The resolution was put to the meeting and lost.

Mr. G. F. WILSON, F.R.S., then took the chair, and announced as the next subject for discussion—

**"THE ADVANTAGES OF LOCAL PRIZES TO SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES, AT THE SOCIETY OF ARTS EXAMINATIONS, AS A STIMULUS TO LOCAL COMPETITION."**

Mr. BLAKE said the resolution he should move on this subject was as follows:—

"That in all cases where the means for local prizes can be obtained it is desirable to offer them as a stimulus to local competition, to be decided by the result of the Elementary and Final Examinations of the Society of Arts."

He did not consider that it was at all necessary to enforce the great advantage of stimulating candidates in order to induce them to exert themselves so as to be as successful as possible. He believed there would not be the slightest difficulty in providing local prizes, but that there were many gentlemen who would be glad to subscribe funds for such a purpose. One very important part of the arrangement would be to see that the prizes were distributed by a thoroughly competent and impartial authority. The resolution merely affirmed the propriety and desirableness of establishing such a system of local prizes as had been found to work well in the Yorkshire Union.

Mr. BROOKS seconded the resolution. He said that their experience at Banbury had been decidedly in favour of granting local prizes to those who had obtained first-class certificates from the Society of Arts or from the Department at Kensington. This system acted as a great stimulus to local candidates, who were certainly deserving of some consideration on the part of those who lived in the town where the Institution was established, and were glad to receive such expressions of sympathy and of approbation. There was an idea in many places that the examinations of the Government Department and of the Society of Arts were rivals, but such was not the case, and at Banbury the starting of the Science School in connection with the Institution had been of great advantage to them, and it had been found that the two mutually assisted each other.

Mr. CRAIG (Glasgow Institution) said that the Institution which he represented had a very strong feeling on this matter, and most earnestly wished the resolution to pass.

The Rev. R. WHITTINGTON could not understand to whom it was intended to give the local prizes, or how it could be a stimulus unless it were given to the second-best man, whose name was never known. The prize of the Society of Arts was stimulus enough to the successful candidate.

The Rev. W. S. BRUCE said the only way in which they could make the local prize a stimulus was by knowing which of their local candidates did the best.

Mr. BLAKE said the object was not to ascertain who the second-best man was, but to give a local prize to the local successful candidates.

Mr. SALES said the system now proposed was already carried out in connection with the Metropolitan Association, prizes being given to the successful London candidates, as shown by the number of marks awarded by the Examiners.

Mr. RULE said that for the first time this year Sir

Charles Wentworth Dilke had given a prize of £5 to the candidate from the Aldershot Institute who obtained the highest aggregate number of marks at the Society of Arts examinations. Every first-class certificate was counted as four marks, every second as two, and every third as one. The same prize had also been promised for next year.

Mr. REYNOLDS (City of London College) said he was connected with three Institutions, and the plan adopted in one of them, the City of London College, was to have local examinations for the local prizes. He thought there would be some difficulty about the scheme as proposed, because they might get several members of one Institution who obtained precisely the same number of marks or certificates, and the question would be, which of them was entitled to the prize. This, perhaps, would not apply to small, but only to large Institutions, where it would be found a very hard matter indeed to arrange candidates in the order of merit, and he did not suppose that the Society of Arts examiner, considering the amount of work he had to do, would be willing to take the trouble of telling them in each case the number of marks gained by the candidates.

Mr. SALES said the Society of Arts supplied him with a list of candidates arranged according to their respective merits.

Mr. BLAKE said he did not believe that such a case as had been mentioned by Mr. Reynolds would ever arise.

The Rev. R. WHITTINGTON said, that surely one small Institution might send up two men who would take the same class of prize.

Mr. REYNOLDS said, that at the Polytechnic Institution they had more money to distribute in prizes than they could advantageously. In another Institution, at Bromley, there were two pupils this year who had first-class certificates for Arithmetic and Book-keeping, and he would ask Mr. Blake what he would do in such a case as that.

Mr. LE NEVE FOSTER (the Secretary) said it would perhaps save time if he stated at once that any Institution which desired the information could be furnished with the order of merit of its candidates.

Mr. BROOKS said that at Banbury every first-class certificate was supplemented by a local prize.

The resolution was carried.

**"WHETHER ANY SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS CAN BE HELD OUT TO LEAD SOLDIERS TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE SOCIETY'S EXAMINATIONS?"**

Mr. SALES said he wished to move a resolution on this subject on the part of Mr. Chester. The matter had already been published in the *Journal*, and if the resolution was carried it would only be extending the area of the Society of Arts examinations, and add to the prestige and the work of the Society. The resolution he had to propose was as follows:—

"That the Conference welcome the sanction of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge to the scheme of education carried on by the Society of Arts. In the opinion of the Conference, however, it is important that no inducement should even be suggested without previous consultation with the Commander-in-Chief or with the Military Council of Education. They also think that Local Boards at military stations should be cautioned not to take any initiatory measure without first engaging the concurrence at least of the general or other officer commanding, or, in the case of a regiment, of the officer commanding that regiment."

Mr. RULE had great pleasure in seconding the resolution. At Aldershot they had hailed with very great satisfaction the memorandum issued by the Commander-in-Chief, but at the same time they knew by experience that it was necessary to be extremely cautious as to the manner in which they proceeded in working among soldiers. If the plan were carefully and judiciously worked it would no doubt be a great advantage to the soldiers, but if not it would prove to be a very great disappointment to them.

selves and to the Society of Arts. The soldier knew only one master, and that was his commanding officer; he had no less sense of right, or moral feeling, or sensibility than the civilian, but his commanding officer was everything to him, and he would do nothing without his sanction, or unless he was ordered by him. Of course it was necessary that discipline should be maintained in the army, but some of the officers were remarkably strict, and many of them even went so far as to maintain that the soldier was "none the better for being educated." If they went to work incautiously they might depend upon it that the memorandum issued by the Commander-in-Chief would very soon be withdrawn, and nobody would know why. The only thing to do was to leave the whole matter to the local board, and to let them work it as their experience might tell them was best.

Mr. WOMERSLEY (Hastings Mechanics' Institution) knew nothing of the matter more than he had seen in a memorandum, but if it was such a difficult matter why should they interfere in it at all? He should certainly never ask an officer himself whether he might teach his men or not.

Mr. PEARSALL said, that in the London Mechanics Institution they had had several instances of the willingness of soldiers to avail themselves of the advantages offered there; and several years ago some members of the Horse Brigade, stationed at Windsor, used to walk from Windsor to attend the evening classes, and march back after the classes were over.

Mr. NOLDWRIGHT (Walworth Institution) said he understood that the soldiers at Aldershot complained a great deal of the want of lectures.

The resolution was carried.

THE PROPRIETY OF ADDING TO THE SOCIETY'S EXAMINATIONS THE SUBJECT OF "PRACTICAL GARDENING," IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PROPOSAL MADE TO THE COUNCIL BY THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, WHO HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO OFFER PRIZES IN THIS SUBJECT.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Chester took a great interest in this subject, and if he had been able would have been present to have spoken upon it. For his own part, he had lately been thrown a great deal into contact, as a member of the Fruit Committee of the Horticultural Society, with many of the practical gardeners in the country, and he could not help noticing how great a difference there was between those who were educated and those who were not. The Society of Arts were willing to do all they could to encourage education in gardening, and the resolution to be proposed would affirm the desirability of their so doing.

Mr. RULE proposed, and the Rev. R. WHITTINGTON seconded a resolution expressing the opinion of the Conference in favour of such a course, which was carried.

"HOW CAN INSTITUTIONS PROMOTE THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION OF THEIR MEMBERS?"

Mr. BLAKE proposed the following resolution:—

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the physical education of the members of Institutions may be beneficially promoted by the formation of classes for the practice of cricket and other athletic exercises, excursions for the study of botany, geology, and cognate sciences, and similar pursuits adapted to summer time."

He thought that much good might be done in establishing games in connection with Institutions, especially during the summer months, when people wanted to get out of doors, and the Institutions and classes were generally neglected. It was not altogether a new thing, and was very effective in keeping the members together.

Mr. SALES heartily seconded the proposition. The Metropolitan Association which he represented had already taken the matter up, and though there were great difficulties in carrying out anything of the kind in a place like

London, they had done all they could to overcome them. They had encouraged the exercise of athletic sports, and about twelve months ago they had a *fête* at the Crystal Palace, and though they did not expect to be very successful they were pleased to find that they attracted 13,600 visitors. They were shortly going to have another *fête* at the same place, when they would have a competition in athletic sports, to which they invited their friends from the country. Although they would only be able to give prizes to their own members, they were quite willing to form the nucleus of a fund for the purpose of providing a prize which should be open to the members of any Institutions to compete for.

Mr. REYNOLDS said the great difficulty in respect to this matter in London was the want of funds. The Institution doing most in this way was one at Bromley, where they had a cricket field for which they paid a high rental. For his own part he advocated an entire cessation from study during the summer, and he therefore advocated the establishment of some system for promoting the physical education of the members of the Institutions during the summer months.

The resolution was carried.

Mr. JONES said the next subject had been suggested by him, and was as follows:—

"HOW MAY POPULAR READINGS AND ENTERTAINMENTS BE MADE TO PROMOTE THE EFFICIENCY OF INSTITUTION CLASSES?"

All he wished to do was to ask the various representatives present whether they had found popular readings and entertainments promote the efficiency of the Institutions and the classes. He wished to get information on the subject.

The Rev. R. WHITTINGTON said this matter had always been a difficult one to carry out, but on the whole he was of opinion that popular readings and entertainments did promote the efficiency of Institutions, and for this reason it was very important that the members should feel that they had a kind of associated feeling in connection with the Institutions, and this could be done by giving them opportunities of inviting their friends to visit the Institutions on certain occasions. The benefit of elocution classes was sometimes doubted, but on the whole he thought they were of use, and it must be remembered that many of those who were members of the elocution class would not visit the Institution at all if no such class existed.

Mr. BLAKE said that in his experience he had found popular entertainments to be highly successful, even where class instruction was made an important feature of the Institution. After giving some results of popular entertainments in connection with the Institution at Huddersfield, Mr. Blake moved the following resolution:—

"That popular readings and intellectual entertainments may be made to promote the efficiency of institution classes by being given at fixed times, by being varied with the practice of music classes, and by brief discussions for the encouragement of English Composition on subjects bearing reference to the objects of the Institution."

Mr. CRAIG seconded the resolution.

Mr. RULE said that great attention ought to be paid to the subjects chosen for readings, and he thought that the people who carried out such readings often wanted advice on this subject.

Mr. BROOKS thought the Society of Arts would be doing great service if they would publish a guide as to what works were suitable for public readings.

The resolution was carried.

"THE ADVANTAGE OF GARDEN ALLOTMENTS AS A FEATURE OF THE INSTITUTE, WITH THE VIEW OF HEALTHFUL RECREATION FOR THE MEMBERS."

Mr. BLAKE said in some districts it had been found that the plan worked well, and nothing could be more desir-

able than that it should be introduced generally wherever practicable, inasmuch as it would be greatly for the benefit of the members of the Institutions, and would also promote the study of botany. He would therefore propose—

“That, wherever practicable, it would be of advantage to the members for Institutes to provide garden allotments, under regulations, in which due cultivation and prompt payment of rent were prominent features.”

Mr. PEARSALL seconded the resolution, and bore testimony to the efficient state in which he had found this system to be in in Yorkshire.

The CHAIRMAN said that within four miles of Birkenhead he had seen a piece of ground of about thirty acres let out in allotments on the plan proposed, and with the happiest results to the Institutions with which it was connected.

The resolution was carried.

“SHOULD INSTITUTES PROMOTE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HORTICULTURAL SHOWS, BUILDING SOCIETIES, PENNY SAVINGS BANKS, AND SIMILAR MOVEMENTS TOWARDS THE SOCIAL AMELIORATION OF THE PEOPLE?”

Mr. BLAKE proposed, and Mr. WINKWORTH seconded, the next resolution, which was carried as follows:—

“That Institutes may with great advantage promote the formation of Horticultural Shows, Building Societies, Penny Savings Banks, Provident Societies, and similar means of ameliorating the condition of working people, and also provide accommodation for the payment of wages.”

“THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS TO INSTITUTES BEING PAID BY WEEKLY OR OTHER SMALL AMOUNTS.”

Mr. NOLDWORTH said the question of receiving the payments in small sums would depend greatly on the class of people who were the members of the Institutions, and it must be left entirely to each Institution to decide for itself.

Mr. REYNOLDS thought that, as a general rule, the payments ought to be made every three months at least, but there were circumstances, perhaps, in which shorter payments would be necessary.

Mr. CRAIG said that the Institutions which he represented were of opinion that wherever it was practicable the payments should only be made once a year.

Mr. PEARSALL said it was a matter which must depend entirely on the locality in which the Institutions were placed.

The resolution was carried.

Mr. BLAKE then proposed, and Mr. F. TALBOT seconded, the following resolution, which was passed unanimously:—

“That the delegates present at this Conference desire to express their high sense of the valuable services to Institutions rendered by the Society of Arts by the system of Elementary Examinations and the Certificates and Prizes at the Annual Final Examination, by which the important cause of adult education has been very greatly promoted, and they request the Council of the Society of Arts to accept their cordial thanks for the important aid which has thus been given to the Institutes in association.”

Mr. NOLDWORTH asked if the attention of the Society had been called to Mr. Lock's Theatre Bill, which, if carried, would oblige every lecture-room in the kingdom to be shut up as useless.

Mr. LE NEVE FOSTER (Secretary) said it was no doubt a very important matter for the consideration of the Institutions, and he was glad it had been mentioned, but it was understood that for the present the Bill was withdrawn.

A vote of thanks to the three gentlemen who had presided over the Conference was then proposed by Mr. RULE, and seconded by Mr. REYNOLDS, and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks.

## Fine Arts.

ENGLISH TASTE AND ART.—M. Michel Chevalier, in a debate in the French Chamber on the 20th May, advocating increased exertions in France, said:—“It is now three years since I was in London, as a French member of the jury for the International Exhibition, I give the names of my honourable colleagues on that occasion—M. Le Baron Gross, Merimée, and Dumas, who I see are now in their seats, and from whom I ask co-operation. The one fact more than another which particularly struck the French jury was the considerable progress made by foreigners in the art of design in connection with industry. We were struck by it; it inspired us with admiration for the efforts made by foreigners, but it likewise inspired us with a fear that our country might be out-done. We were impressed and frightened by the marked progress which the English had notably made in works of good taste. The English up to recent times, although they have had some celebrated artists, have not been very remarkable for taste; and good taste was wanting in their industry. The greater portion of designs used in the printed cotton manufactories at Manchester and Liverpool came from designers established in Paris. The English have understood that, during this industrial competition between the different foreign nations, it was necessary to make great efforts, and they have made them. A museum has been established at South Kensington for the purpose of educating teachers, who are afterwards sent throughout the manufacturing towns of the country; in propagating good taste a revolution has been effected. We were so much surprised at the progress made that when our report had to be drawn up, one of us (and he by no means the least competent in matters of taste, M. Merimée) treated this point specially, and certainly what he has written is one of the most curious and best written pages of the six volumes which comprise the general report of the French jury. From the three or four lines which I am going to quote to you, you yourselves will appreciate what the English have done, and will better understand the information laid before us, and the obligation under which we are, of redoubling our energies so as not to compromise our superiority. ‘The school at South Kensington has been open for ten years. The corresponding provincial schools (and others which might have been added, to which masters have been sent) numbered ninety. The number of students trained throughout the United Kingdom was 91,386.’ (M. Merimée—These numbers which were for 1862 must have now greatly increased.) M. Michel Chevalier continued—‘With respect to the influence exercised in so short a period by this great institution, we admit freely the assistance rendered to us by our colleagues in the English jury. In answer to our question as to the cause to which the progresses so remarkable that year in their manufactures were attributed they replied, the new resources opened to industry by the schools at South Kensington.’ I conclude by quoting that ‘the study of drawing and of mathematics is the foundation of the instruction which should be given to the students.’”

POMPEII.—An interesting discovery has just been made at Pompeii, where the face of a large and handsome fountain has been uncovered. Connected with this a very curious fact is given, namely, that the upper portion of the fountain is covered with zinc, a metal which has not been supposed heretofore to have been applied to any such purpose. It is proposed to restore this fountain, which is decorated with shell work, in order to show the character of public works of the kind at the Pompeian period.

## Commerce.

THE COAL MINES OF THE WORLD.—M. A. Buvat, in a work entitled “Situation de l'Industrie Houillère en

1864," gives the following as the statistics of the extent of known coal fields and their annual production :—

	Extent in hectares (1 hectare being equal to 2·471 acres).	Tons.
British Isles .....	1,570,000	86,000,000
France.....	350,000	10,000,000
Belgium .....	150,000	10,000,000
Prussia and Saxony .....	300,000	12,000,000
Austria and Bohemia ...	120,000	2,500,000
Spain .....	150,000	400,000
North America .....	30,000,000	20,000,000
Total .....	32,640,000	140,900,000

As regards France, the coal basin of the Loire, which is only 25,000 hectares in extent, furnishes three-tenths of the whole of the coal raised in the country.

### Colonies.

**WATER CONSUMPTION IN MELBOURNE.**—According to a statement made in Parliament the other day, the quantity of water consumed in Melbourne and the suburbs every twenty-four hours is 9,750,000 gallons, being at the rate of 90 gallons per head per diem, or a larger consumption per head than takes place in any other city in the world, save Rome, Marseilles, and New York.

**ACCLIMATISATION IN VICTORIA.**—At a recent meeting of the Acclimatisation Society, at Melbourne, a letter was read, bringing under the notice of the Council the eminent adaptability of the Bogong Mountains for the liberation of deer. The Bogongs are a range of mountains on the north-east of Victoria, consisting in many parts of basaltic plains, between 3,000 and 4,000 feet above the level of the sea. They extend from the river Murray to Gipp Land, run north by south-west, and abound with wild fastnesses, from which, if the deer were once established, it would be almost impossible to dislodge them. The letter concluded by saying that, "if this object be successfully achieved, next to the introduction of salmon nothing of such importance in the country will have been effected; a valueless tract of mountains, miles in extent, will become of use; deer-stalking, not inferior to any in Scotland, will be afforded, and an inducement to visit wild and romantic scenery in a cold climate will be offered." This letter it was decided to take into a fuller consideration at a future meeting. It is evident that a great number of deer must be enlarged at once to give any chance of the breed being fairly established in such a country; and with this object in view the secretary was requested to make inquiries as to the feasibility of importing a number of fallow deer from Tasmania.

### Obituary.

**EUGENE GERUZEZ**, late Professor of Literature at the Sorbonne, and since Honorary Professor of the Faculty of Letters, died in Paris recently. M. Géruzez was a sound and prolific writer, and enjoyed a high reputation as a critic and literary historian. His best works are a "History of Political and Religious Eloquence in France in the 14th, 15th, and 16th centuries;" a "Complete Course of Education for Girls;" and the recently published "History of French Literature to the year 1789;" which last, if we are not mistaken, won for its distinguished author one of the great prizes of the French Academy. The funeral was attended by an immense number of literary men.

### Notes.

**COMMERCIAL EDUCATION IN FRANCE.**—The Chamber of Commerce of Paris has recently established an institu-

tion that deserves attention, a school specially designed for youths intended for financial and commercial pursuits. Besides those branches of knowledge which are absolutely necessary for success in finance and commerce, the modern languages, English and German in particular receive special attention. The new school is in full operation, and was visited the other day by M. Duruy the Minister of Public Instruction, who is indefatigable in his endeavours to improve the means of public instruction. The establishment is on a grand scale and is situated in the Avenue Trudaine.

**CAB!**—In Paris, as in London, there are great complaints upon *fête* days, in bad weather, and at all times when public conveyances are in great requisition, that while the omnibuses exhibit a board bearing the word *complet* when they are full, there is nothing to tell whether a passing cab is engaged or not, and this affords the drivers the opportunity of being deaf to applications which do not quite coincide with their own views as regards direction, numbers, or otherwise. It is now proposed to remedy this by affixing to the cab a flat lamp, of a brilliant colour, so as to form a day as well as night signal, and so arranged as to be seen only when the vehicle contains no passengers.

**NEW FORM OF HONOURING GENIUS.**—The great French chemist, Thénard, was born in a village in the arrondissement of Nogent-sur-Seine, in the Aube, which was called La Louptière, on account of the immense number of wolves which formerly invested it. He was the son of a poor farmer, and was born on the 4th of May, 1777. Having studied chemistry under Fourcroy at the Jardin des Plantes in Paris, he eventually occupied the chair in the Academy of Sciences, rendered vacant by the death of his master, was created a baron by Louis XVIII., and died in 1857, crowned with all the honours that science had to bestow. His native village has applied for and obtained permission to honour his memory by appending his name to that of the place of his birth, which is for the future to be called La Louptière-Thénard. A grand *fête* was held there on the 21st of May to celebrate the event, when the new name was officially published.

**SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION OF PARIS.**—This new society, whose proceedings have been already noticed more than once in the columns of the *Journal*, has just made its first annual report. The subscription to the association is only ten francs a year, and the smallness of the rate has in this case produced highly satisfactory results. Besides defraying the expenses of a series of monthly meetings, and the cost of the experiments performed on those occasions, the association has been able to apply a sum equal to £840, in three equal amounts, to the encouragement of astronomy, physical science, and meteorology; this distribution of funds has already been noticed in our columns. The portion devoted to astronomy is for the purpose of constructing a large telescope. A portion of the sum devoted to meteorology has been voted to several Dutch and French sailors for observations at sea, and valuable in the construction of storm charts, and in the elucidation of the laws which regulate such atmospheric phenomena. M. Terquem, of Metz, reported to the association, at its last meeting, the first results of his experiments, undertaken with the aid of the society, on the vibrations of metallic rods and plates. The Scientific Association of Paris consists at present of three thousand five hundred members, which, it is hoped, will be more than doubled next session.

### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON. ...British Architects, 8.  
TUES. ...Medical and Chirurgical, 8½.  
Zoological, 8½.  
Ethnological, 8. Captain Wilson. "Report on the Indian Tribes inhabiting the country in the vicinity of the 49th parallel of North Latitude."  
R. Horticultural. 1. Mr. Jas. Bateman, F.R.S., "On Raf-  
lesia Arnoldi." 2. Rev. M. J. Berkeley, "On Various New and Rare Plants."

- WED...Society of Arts, 4. Annual General Meeting.  
Royal Inst., 4. M. Jules Simon, "On the Physical and Moral Condition of workmen in France." (In French.)
- THURS...Royal Inst., 4. M. Jules Simon, "On the Physical and Moral Condition of Workmen in France." (In French.)
- FRI.....Royal Inst., 4. M. Jules Simon, "On the Physical and Moral Condition of Workmen in France." (In French.)

## PARLIAMENTARY REPORTS.

### SESSIONAL PRINTED PAPERS.

- Par.  
Num. *Delivered on 26th May, 1865.*
214. Hong Kong—Correspondence.
- SESSION 1863.
- 431 (C. 1). Poor Rates and Pauperism—Return (C).  
*Delivered on 27th and 29th May, 1865.*
164. Bills—Inns or Court (as amended in Committee).
167. " London Brokers.
168. " Pier and Harbour Orders Confirmation (No. 2).
- 66 (viii). Railway and Canal, &c., Bills—Ninth Report of General Committee.
285. East India (Home Accounts).
299. Patrick Donohoe and Edward Burke—Abstract Return.
302. Northern Circuit—Return.
303. Turnpike Trust (Devizes)—Return.
306. Post Fines—Return.
307. Armstrong Guns—Returns.
311. Police (Scotland) Seventh Report of Inspector.
388. Military Knights of Windsor—return.
- Delivered on 30th May, 1865.*
186. Bills—Wick and Ayr Burghs Elections.
189. " Inland Revenue.
172. " Courts of Justice Buildings (Lords Amendment).
173. " Courts of Justice Concentration (Site) (Lords Amendment).
174. " Common Law Courts Fees (Lords Amendment).
175. " Oxford University (Vinerian Foundation) (Lords Amendments).
313. Middlesex Industrial Schools Bill—Minutes of Evidence, &c.
320. Reformatory Ships—Return.

## Patents.

*From Commissioners of Patents Journal, June 16th.*

### GRANTS OF PROVISIONAL PROTECTION.

- Annealing pots and saucers—1480—J. Hibell.
- Artificial fuel—1438—H. Gibbs.
- Artificial fuel—1547—D. Barker.
- Atmospheric pressure, propulsion by—598—Sir J. S. Lillie.
- Barège stuffs, manufacture of—440—W. E. Gedge.
- Boots and shoes, manufacture of—1318—G. Haseltine.
- Bottle stoppers—1466—W. Settle.
- Brooms or brushes—1482—W. Martin.
- Chaff-cutters—1501—F. Richmond, H. Chandler, & J. G. Richmond.
- Chemical combustibles—477—W. E. Gedge.
- Coal-tar colours, application to cotton and linen—1428—R. Maxwell.
- Corks or bungs—1539—J. H. Johnson.
- Dog leash—1476—S. Davis.
- Embroidery—1432—W. Madders.
- Extinguishing fire—1450—C. B. Spaeth.
- Fabrics, washing raw materials employed in manufacture of—1464—J. A. Heinrich.
- Fibres, machinery for sorting—1430—R. A. Brooman.
- Fibrous materials, treating—1443—M. Henry.
- Fibrous materials, spinning—A. and A. W. Pemberton.
- Fibrous materials, combing and heckling—1567—W. Tongue.
- Fire-arms and ordnance, breech-loading—1436—T. Wilson.
- Fire-arms, breech loading—1525—A. Lancaster.
- Foundry cupolas—1498—T. Summerson.
- Furnaces—1064—W. Beardmore.
- Furnaces, cupola—1448—R. Canham.
- Furnaces for making welded iron tubes—1517—T. Pritchard.
- Fuses of shells, igniting—1211—J. Blackie.
- Gas meters—1370—W. R. Williams.
- Gophering and pressing machine—1444—C. Cotton, F. Anderson, and D. Booker.
- Hair brushing machinery—1490—T. A. Browne and J. Knight.
- Hammers, atmospheric forging—1380—E. A. Raymond.
- Iron, &c., casting—1434—J. H. Johnson.
- Japaned surfaces, ornamenting—1454—L. Brierley.
- Keyless watches—1470—H. Son.
- Lighting and heating—1507—W. Clark.
- Locks—1402—W. E. Gedge.
- Malt-catching apparatus—1382—A. Chavanne.
- Measuring gas, &c., apparatus for—1456—R. A. Brooman.
- Milk-pans—1545—C. H. Wanebrough.
- Nickel and cobalt, production of from waste liquors of burnt copper ore—1352—W. Wright.
- Oil, obtained from fatty matters—1458—R. A. Brooman.
- Oil-reservoirs—1649—R. A. Brooman.

- Ordnance and fire arms, breech loading—1328—T. Craig.
- Paddle-wheels—405—J. G. Tongue.
- Paper manufacture—1486—R. H. Collyer.
- Photo-electrotyping—1541—W. E. Newton.
- Pile fabrics, manufacture of—1519—W. Gadd and J. Moore.
- Piles, wooden, machinery for cutting off below water—1474—C. H. Murray.
- Pocket lanterns—1513—W. E. Newton.
- Railways, permanent way of—1511—T. Hunt.
- Railway tyres, cast steel—1428—J. Firth.
- Reaping and mowing machines—1503—W. J. Burgess.
- Retorts—1424—J. A. Coffey.
- Road scraper—1477—W. Smith.
- Sawing machines—1452—C. Frazer.
- Screw propellers—510—J. G. Hughes.
- Shirts—1465—H. Tipper.
- Stay or corset busk—1446—W. E. Gedge.
- Steam boilers—1521—H. E. Newton.
- Steam engine governors—1561—W. E. Newton.
- Steel, manufacture of—1460—L. Moser.
- Stillages—1329—T. Parkinson and W. Snodgrass.
- Telegraphic communication on railways—1543—A. I. L. Gordon.
- Textile fabrics, apparatus for stretching and drying—1360—J. Worrall and T. Hughes.
- Tube-cutters—1527—Charles Taylor.
- Umbrellas, &c.—1529—J. Stephenson.
- Vices—1472—W. Johnson.
- Wool, &c., washing—1500—J. Petrie.
- Writing tables, &c., locking sets of drawers arranged in—1462—L. Diele.

### INVENTION WITH COMPLETE SPECIFICATION FILED.

- Flour, &c., apparatus for sifting—1568—G. Haseltine.
- Sewing machines—1572—G. Haseltine.

### PATENTS SEALED.

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 3142. W. Tate.                                    | 3171. J. Ramsbottom and T. Blackburn. |
| 3146. C. W. Orford.                               | 3176. J. Hargreaves.                  |
| 3150. J. Butchart, H. Stroud, and S. A. Morrison. | 3181. C. G. Wilson.                   |
| 3151. E. T. Hughes.                               | 3182. J. Byrne.                       |
| 3152. H. J. H. King, H. E. Smith, J. B. Howell.   | 3180. W. E. Gedge.                    |
| 3155. H. Druneau and P. Laidet.                   | 3182. J. Bethell.                     |
| 3164. H. A. de Briou.                             | 3229. J. D. D. Morrison.              |
| 3166. J. Westwood.                                | 749. G. Dibley and F. Braby.          |
| 3168. C. G. Hill.                                 | 1004. A. Homfray.                     |
| 3170. F. Tolhausen.                               | 1051. A. V. Newton.                   |

*From Commissioners of Patents Journal, June 20th.*

### PATENTS SEALED.

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|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 3167. C. E. Bryant and S. Middleton. | 3195. R. A. Brooman.   |
| 3177. R. Wilson.                     | 3198. J. Hay.          |
| 3179. J. and J. H. Fothergill.       | 3207. E. Morewood.     |
| 3185. J. Gillespie.                  | 3208. C. H. Taylor.    |
| 3186. J. B. Edge and E. Hird.        | 3211. J. P. Robertson. |
| 3193. J. F. Wheeler.                 | 80. W. Clark.          |

### PATENTS ON WHICH THE STAMP DUTY OF £50 HAS BEEN PAID.

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1767. J. Lancelott.           | 1796. J. Kellow and H. Short. |
| 1774. R. A. Brooman.          | 1799. J. Warren.              |
| 1798. J. H. Johnson.          | 1801. W. E. Newton.           |
| 1759. J. H. Glew.             | 1812. J. B. Wood.             |
| 1769. J. Sawyer & G. Padgham. | 1825. A. Warner.              |
| 1779. J. F. Allan.            | 1845. G. Hazeltine.           |
| 1790. J. and T. A. Nield.     | 1990. E. Townsend.            |
| 1794. W. Clark.               |                               |

### PATENTS ON WHICH THE STAMP DUTY OF £100 HAS BEEN PAID.

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|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1346. J. H. Johnson.    | 1388. R. and T. Winans. |
| 1386. R. and T. Winans. | 1389. R. and T. Winans. |
| 1387. R. and T. Winans. | 1414. S. Barlow.        |
| 1420. Sir J. Paxton.    | 1383. S. Hewitt.        |

## Registered Designs.

- Sanitary Zig-zag Urinal—May 25—4713—R. Willoughby, 39, Mildmay-road, Islington.
- Bellows for Insect Powder—May 26—4714—M. Fitzgerald, 201, King's-road, Chelsea.
- Hair Brush Apparatus—May 30—4715—S. E. Ravenscroft, White Rock place, Hastings.
- A Clip or Binder—June 1—4716—4717—4718—George Twigg, Mosley-street, Birmingham.
- An Improved Double-action Point Protected Pin—June 2—4719—C. Edkins, Camden-street, Birmingham.
- Stud Button—June 3—4720—J. W. Scott, Victoria House, Worcester.
- An Improved Hair Pin—June 3—4721—L. Hovenden, jun., 5, Great Marlborough street.
- A Mechanical Chimney Sweeper—June 8—4722—R. Farr, Doncaster.
- Government Cartridge Tester—June 15—4723—J. W. P. Field, 233, High Holborn.
- Instrument or Apparatus for Lighting and Extinguishing Lamps—June 15th—2724—Satley Gas Works, near Birmingham.